

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ORGANIZATION, PERSONNEL AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

April 12, 2021

Chair Murray Jr. called the teleconference meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Members present: Chair Murray Jr., Directors Blois, Camacho ((entered after roll call), Cordero, Faessel, Fellow, Galleano, Hogan, Jung, Lefevre ((entered after roll call), McCoy, Morris, Ortega, G. Peterson, Smith, Tamaribuchi, and Williams.

Members absent: None

Other Board Members present: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Atwater, Blois, Butkiewicz, De Jesus, Dick, Erdman, Goldberg, Gray, Kurtz, Quinn, Ramos and Record.

Committee Staff present: Chapman, C. Eckstrom, Kightlinger, I. Muñoz, and Pitman.

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION

Officer of AFSCME 1902, Jeff Cable called in to comment on item 6-c.

President of AFSCME 1902, Alan Shanahan called to comment on employee and staff accountability.

Chair of AFSCME Women's Caucus, Ellen Mackey, called into to comment on media articles and comment on employee investigations. (Before vote of consent calendar)

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS — ACTION
--

2. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION

A. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Organization, Personnel and Technology Committee held March 8, 2021

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION

7-7 Subject: Authorize the General Manager to enter into six temporary skilled labor agreements with 22nd Century Technologies, Inc., Johnson Services Group, Tryfacta, Inc., Abacus Service Corporation, EPCM-RMS, Inc and Skillset Group, LLC, each with an initial amount of \$250,000 for per year, and each with up to four-annual renewal options, with a maximum amount of \$2 million per year for all six

contracts; the General Manager has determined that the proposed actions is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Motion: Authorize the General Manager to enter into six temporary skilled labor agreements with 22nd Century Technologies, Inc., Johnson Services Group, Tryfacta, Inc., Abacus Service Corporation, EPCM-RMS, Inc. and Skillset Group, LLC, each with an initial amount of \$250,000 per year, and each with up to four annual renewal options, with a maximum amount of \$2 million per year for all six contracts.

Presented by: No presentation

7-8 Subject: Authorize an agreement with Syntech Systems Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$1,104,000 for the Fuel Management System Upgrade; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Motion: Authorize an agreement with Syntech Systems Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$1,104,000 for the Fuel Management System Upgrade.

Presented by: No presentation

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. Morris

7-9 Subject: Authorize entering into a professional services agreement with Morris and Willner Partners, Inc. not to exceed 2.43 million, for design, development, and deployment of an enhanced Water Information System which will replace the existing system and ensure current and future invoicing requirements are met; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Motion: Authorize a professional services contract with Morris and Willner Partners Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$2.43 million for the implementation (including the first five years of support maintenance) of the custom-developed Water Information System.

Presented by: Thomas Miller, Director of Information Technology Services

Mr. Miller provided an overview of the capabilities of the new billing system and the vendor selection process.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. Morris
2. Ortega
3. Williams

Staff responded to the Directors questions and comments.

Director Morris made a motion, seconded by Director Fellow to approve the consent calendar consisting of item 2A, 7-7, 7-8 and 7-9.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Blois, Camacho, Cordero, Faessel, Fellow, Galleano, Hogan, Jung, Lefevre, McCoy, Morris, Murray, Ortega, G. Peterson, Smith, Tamaribuchi, and Williams.

Noes: None

Abstentions: Director Ortega item 7-9 only

Absent: None

The motion for item 2A, 7-7 and 7-8 passed by a vote of 17 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstention, and 0 absent.

The motion for item 7-9 passed by a vote of 16 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstention, and 0 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council Update

Presented by: Jeannette Correa, Senior Administrative Analyst, Vice President of Hispanic Employee Association and DE&I Council Member.

Ms. Correa provided gave a update on the activity of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion council.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. G. Peterson
2. Smith
3. Murray

- b. Subject: Ethics Officer's Monthly Update on Independent Review of Workplace Concerns

Presented by: Brooke Kozak, Shaw Law Group
Jennifer Shaw, Shaw Law Group

Shaw Law Group provided an update on their progress to date. The firm anticipates requiring an additional 60 days beyond their internal goal of April 30, 2021, to complete the review

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. Ortega
2. Smith
3. Murray

Staff responded to the Directors questions and comments.

- c. Subject: Desert Employee Personnel Matter

Presented by: Shane Chapman, Chief Administrative Officer

Mr. Chapman provided report on Desert Employee.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. G. Peterson
2. Murray
3. Ortega
4. Gray
5. Abdo
6. Ramos
7. Hogan

Staff responded to the Directors questions and comments.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORT

- a. Human Resources Manager's Report

None

- b. Information Technology Manager's Report

Mr. Eckstrom provided an update on data center modernization and relocation efforts.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Director Murray requested research on other remote housing structures, firearms policy, and impact on desert recruitment and retention

10. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting will be held on May 10, 2021

Meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

John Murray Jr.
Chair